Yukon Information and Privacy Commissioner

Annual Report 2007

Information and Privacy Commissioner's Message: Building Relationships

It is my honour and privilege to present this 12th Annual Report of the Yukon Information and Privacy Commissioner. I have sent this report to the Honourable Ted Staffen, Speaker of the Yukon Legislative Assembly, who will present it to the assembly as required by the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy (ATIPP) Act*.

I am also offering this report to the people of the Yukon. This is the first annual report to be completed since I became Ombudsman and Information and Privacy Commissioner in May of 2007. We have adopted a new format and produced separate reports, one for the Ombudsman and one for the work of the Information and Privacy Commissioner, in the hope that the reports will prove more user-friendly and interesting to all Yukoners. As usual, this report summarizes our activities throughout the year, but we have also included other types of general information about our office, which we hope you'll find useful. Our goal is to inform, educate and illustrate the nature of the work we do and the results achieved.

The governing legislation for our work is the *ATIPP Act*. Its purpose is to make public bodies more accountable to citizens and to protect personal privacy. The *Act* states that these goals should be achieved through the provision of access to information procedures; the prevention of unauthorized collection, use or disclosure of personal information by public bodies; and oversight by the Information and Privacy Commissioner. The Commissioner provides this oversight through independent review of decisions made under the *Act*, handling complaints, and providing comments on the access and privacy implications of legislation and programs.

The intent and goals of the *ATIPP Act* are not achieved solely through the activities of our oversight office. It is vital that the government recognizes the spirit of the *Act* and emphasizes its importance with all public bodies. An efficient and meaningful access and privacy regime requires the following elements:

- Effective and up-to-date legislation;
- A strong network of properly trained ATIPP Coordinators in all government departments;
- Plain-language guidelines about the *ATIPP Act* and how it operates, to assist public bodies, ATIPP Coordinators and the public;
- Accessible and specific training for all Yukon government employees on record-keeping, collection and use of personal information, and application of the *ATIPP Act*;
- An efficient and clear process to make access requests and have those decisions reviewed; and
- An efficient and clear process for making complaints about the administration of the *ATIPP Act*.

As an individual and as Information and Privacy Commissioner, I believe in the importance of honesty, integrity and cooperation. These are the values I bring to this office. During my first few months in the position, I have worked to build relationships with co-workers, government officials and members of the public, in order to earn their confidence. I began this process by meeting with deputy ministers and many other government officials, working to update our public education materials, and making as many presentations as possible about our office and what we do.

The Yukon government ATIPP office is an invaluable resource for public bodies and the public to obtain information and assistance. During 2007, I met several times with the government's Records Manager, her staff, departmental ATIPP Coordinators and other departmental officials in an effort to build a respectful and ongoing working relationship and to work toward our common goal of improving accountability, protection of personal privacy and government service.

My first eight months in this job were also filled with the search for new office space and the organization of our move. The Office of the Yukon Information and Privacy Commissioner can now be found on Hawkins Street in Whitehorse. More details about how to get in touch with us are set out elsewhere in this report.

When I became Yukon's Information and Privacy Commissioner, I joined a team of extraordinary women who rise to varied and complicated challenges on a daily basis. The staff members of this office are dedicated, experienced and committed to providing effective and accessible services to all Yukoners. I thank each of them for their warm welcome and endless support.

As I look to the future, I know that the office will face continued challenges. Access and privacy issues affect the lives of individuals every day. Yukon's information and privacy regime has not kept pace with the demands placed upon it in this age of rapid technological change and electronic information sharing. On behalf of all Yukoners, I am committed to working to improve the access and privacy legislation and practices by:

- Continuing to urge the Yukon government to initiate a review and amend the *ATIPP Act*;
- Continuing to advocate for the development of ATIPP guidelines for the Yukon Government Records Manager, ATIPP Coordinators and public bodies;
- Working with government as it creates these guidelines;
- Taking every opportunity to comment on the access and privacy implications of new or existing legislation and government programs; and
- Initiating community outreach activities to build awareness about the right to information and the protection of privacy.

Throughout 2007, we have provided service to hundreds of Yukoners who have asked for information, requested a review or brought a complaint. Our goal is to meet every enquiry with professionalism and excellence. I look forward to serving the people of Yukon over the next four years.

T. a. McPhee

Tracy-Anne McPhee
Ombudsman
Information and Privacy Commissioner

Office of the Yukon Ombudsman & Information and Privacy Commissioner

Our Mission

To provide independent oversight of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*;

To receive and process public complaints and requests for review from citizens who feel their access to information rights or their privacy rights have not been respected by a public body;

To comment on the implications of existing or proposed programs or legislation for access to information or for protection of privacy;

To promote fairness, openness and accountability in public administration.

What Does the Information and Privacy Commissioner Do?

There are four main elements in the mandate of the Yukon Information and Privacy Commissioner. They are set out in the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, commonly known as the *ATIPP Act*.

1. The Commissioner responds to any requests for a review of decisions made by public bodies or the Yukon government's Records Manager about requests for access to information.
2. The Commissioner responds to complaints from individuals about the administration of the *ATIPP Act*.
3. The Commissioner may provide comment to public bodies on existing or proposed programs or legislation that may affect the access or privacy rights of Yukoners.
4. The Commissioner provides education and public information about both access to information and protection of privacy rights, as set out in the *ATIPP Act*.

Contact Us

The office of the Yukon Information and Privacy Commissioner is located in Suite 201 at 211 Hawkins Street in Whitehorse.

Call us at 867-667-8468

Outside of Whitehorse, call collect or call toll-free at 1-800-661-0408, extension 8468

Fax us at 867-667-8469

Email us at info@ombudsman.yk.ca

Send a letter to P.O. Box 2703, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6

Go to our website at **www.ombudsman.yk.ca** and click on the Information and Privacy Commissioner link.

Our Team

Tracy-Anne McPhee
Ombudsman
Information and Privacy Commissioner

Catherine Buckler Lyon
Senior Investigator/Mediator

Susan Dennehy
Investigator/Mediator
Legal Counsel

Alice Purser
Administrative Assistant

L–R: Catherine, Susan, Alice, Tracy

Your Health, Your Privacy

It has long been the position of this office that there are serious gaps in Yukon's legislative framework for the protection of personal health information. While we note some recent signs of progress, we still see an urgent need for legislated protection of the health information of Yukoners.

Our office, along with other Privacy Commissioners in Canada, is taking a special interest in the privacy issues associated with projects that involve highly sensitive personal health information increasingly being collected, stored and disclosed in electronic form.

What's Happening Nationally

Canada Health Infoway (CHI) is a federally funded not-for-profit organization made up of all Canadian provincial and territorial ministers of Health. CHI's task is to develop pan-Canadian Electronic Health Records (EHR) systems with compatible standards and communications technologies. CHI also works to accelerate the use of EHR systems in Canada by providing leadership, expertise and financial resources to more than 200 EHR projects in health ministries across the country.

In 2007, in order to address a number of essential privacy issues, CHI created the Privacy Forum. This unique body includes representatives from health ministries across Canada, Privacy Commissioner's offices, other privacy oversight offices, Health Canada and the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada. The Forum is giving priority to four privacy issues:

1. Accountability
2. Consent
3. Secondary uses and disclosures
4. Inter-jurisdictional data sharing

What's Happening in Yukon

The Yukon government and CHI are collaborating on several projects that will become the building blocks for Electronic Health Records in the territory. These projects are being developed with significant funding and EHR architecture from Canada Health Infoway. More information can be found on the CHI website at www.infoway-inforoute.ca.

Why is this an issue for Yukon?

Several aspects of Yukon's approach to protection of personal health information are of concern to this office:

- Whitehorse General Hospital, Yukon's principle health care facility, is not subject to the *ATIPP Act* and is therefore not within the jurisdiction of any privacy legislation. In other jurisdictions, hospitals are included in the public sector legislation or in the private/health information legislation.
- Yukon is one of five jurisdictions in Canada not yet committed to statutory privacy protection for health information. The others are the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia.
- Because Yukon does not have its own legislation to govern private health records, by default the federal *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA)* applies to records of Yukon private practitioners in all areas of health care, including pharmacies.

Making Progress

I am pleased to report that in May 2007, officials within the department of Health and Social Services shared with me their plans for electronic health record projects already under way. This opened the door for ongoing dialogue with my office on the following projects:

- Yukon Telehealth Network
- TeleHomeCare
- TeleRadiology
- e-prescribing
- Yukon HealthLine (in conjunction with Health Line Services of British Columbia
- BC-Yukon Public Health Information Project (BCYPHIP)

Making New Laws

While the Yukon government's approach to these projects shows progress, the need for legislated protection of the personal health information of Yukoners can no longer be ignored. The Yukon government must develop legislation to set privacy standards for the protection of personal health information and to allow Yukon's full participation in Canadian quality-of-care initiatives which involve the sharing of health information.

I urge Yukon legislators to recognize the call to action from Health Canada's Advisory Council on Health Infostructure, issued a full ten years ago, in 1998:

> *"All federal, provincial and territorial governments in Canada should ensure legislation is in place addressing privacy protection specifically aimed at protecting personal health information through explicit and transparent mechanisms."*

The Information and Privacy Commissioner "Comments"

Part of our work is to provide comment to public bodies on existing or proposed programs or legislation that may affect access or privacy rights for Yukoners. Here are three examples of issues we dealt with and commented upon during 2007.

Driver Information and the Interprovincial Record Exchange

Highways and Public Works

The director of the Transport Services Branch of the department of Highways and Public Works contacted our office in 2007 to ensure that he had fully considered the privacy implications of a contract. This contract governs third party access to driver's license information held by the Interprovincial Record Exchange (IRE). The IRE is used by all Canadian provinces and territories to exchange license and registration data. The contract would allow a third party access to the information. The third party would then liaise with the automobile rental industry to provide, among other pieces of information, verification that a license presented by a prospective vehicle renter is valid.

We recommended that the department use our Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA). It helps identify the requirements of the *ATIPP Act* and assess the privacy and security implications of a program.

British Columbia-Yukon Public Health Information Program (BCYPHIP) & HealthLine

Health and Social Services

The department of Health and Social Services is exploring and developing several programs that will involve the collection and storage of electronic health records and the confidential personal information of Yukoners. We have sought meetings with department officials to better understand the department's e-health initiatives and to deliver the message that such programs must include appropriate protection for the personal health information of Yukoners. Personal medical and health information is particularly sensitive and must be respected and protected in this age of electronic record-keeping and information-sharing systems.

Our meetings and consultations have been valuable to both our office and the department. We will continue to work cooperatively on the many health information challenges facing Yukon.

Guidelines for ATIPP Coordinators

Highways and Public Works, Information and Communications Technology Branch

The Information and Privacy Commissioner has long urged the government to develop and adopt a comprehensive set of ATIPP guidelines, including references to the underlying principles and procedures of the *ATIPP Act*. The purpose of such guidelines would be to assist ATIPP Coordinators and Yukon citizens to better understand the access and privacy rights and protections in the *ATIPP Act*. Guidelines would also assist with the consistent application of the *ATIPP Act* across government.

We have been assured by department officials that the development of guidelines has begun, that they will provide us with an opportunity to review the proposed guidelines and that they will consider any comments we may have.

Reviews and Complaints

Often the best way to describe something is to give examples. We've collected four stories that illustrate some of the work that we've done through requests for review or investigations of complaints in 2007, to give you an idea of the assistance we can provide and the results we can achieve. Because our services are confidential, we've changed the names of the individuals involved.

Be Clear When You Make a Request: Fewer Records = Faster Response

Health and Social Services

Carolyn, a Yukon government employee, made a multi-part request to the department of Health and Social Services (H&SS) for her employment records. The department searched for records and sent several responses to the different parts of her request as it located the information.

Responses to requests for access to information from the Yukon government are required to be completed within 30 days. However, due to the size of Carolyn's request and the number of files and locations that needed to be searched, the department asked for and received four extensions of time from the Yukon government's records manager. Part of the problem was that some files were packed away as a result of a recent office move. After the fourth time extension was granted, Carolyn came to our office to ask for a review of the decision to grant yet another extension. Carolyn and H&SS agreed to mediation, led by our office. During this process, Carolyn was able to identify the particular records that she believed were most important. H&SS was then able to quickly search for those records and get them to her.

Requesting a large number of records or documents may cause delays. Always try to describe the records you want as carefully and specifically as possible. If you are not sure what department may have the records you're after, contact the Yukon government ATIPP office to help with your request.

A Schedule of Records Always Helps

Health and Social Services

Francis, a Yukon government employee, requested her employment records from the department of Health & Social Services (H&SS). The department refused to grant access to the information, saying that the information the department had was "out of scope" of the request.

An "out of scope" denial is not noted in the *ATIPP Act* as a possible reason for turning down an access request. Because of this, Francis didn't understand what the government's response meant. She came to us for clarification and asked that we review the denial.

Francis and the department agreed to enter into mediation led by our office. During this process, officials from H&SS explained that their response meant that the records they found did not contain any of the information requested by Francis.

The *ATIPP Act* requires that government departments respond to access requests openly, accurately, and completely, and that they give reasons when they are not providing the requested records. H&SS recognized that its response in this case was confusing, so it prepared a Schedule of Records to help Francis.

A Schedule of Records lists all records that are relevant to the request. If the department refuses to provide some or part of the relevant records, it can then explain why by referring to the section of the *ATIPP Act* that permits the refusal.

That helped Francis see all the documents that the department had, which ones she received, which ones she didn't receive, and why not.

If every government department prepared a Schedule of Records in response to every access request, it would help both the Yukon Government Records Manager and the individual making the request to better understand what was done and the response provided.

A Case of Information Overlap

Health and Social Services (H&SS)

Michael is a father living outside of Yukon. He wrote to the department of Health and Social Services to request some of his family's records.

Responses to access requests must be given within 30 days of the request, unless the Yukon government Records Manager allows an extension of that time. In this case, the Records Manager decided that she needed more time to respond. She informed Michael that the answers to his access request would take longer than 30 days.

Michael complained to us that his request was taking too long. We investigated and discovered that the records requested by Michael also contained information about another person. If an access request touches on someone else's personal information, even another family member, the *ATIPP Act* requires that this other person be given a chance to decide if they want that information to be provided to the person making the request. Contacting the other person and finding out what they want to do can often take additional time.

We confirmed that this is what had happened in the case of Michael's request.

If the records that you are requesting contain someone else's personal information, it may take longer for you to receive a reply.

Respond Openly, Accurately and Completely

Executive Council Office

James, a reporter, complained to us that the Executive Council Office (ECO) told him that "no records were found" in response to his request for records relating to the Education Reform Project. This did not make sense to him because he knew that the Minister of Education was a member of the Executive Council and was also a member of the Executive Committee of the project.

When we asked for clarification, the Executive Council Office revised its response. The ECO explained that it does not have custody or control of all Ministers' records and that each department is responsible for its own Minister's records. The Executive Council Office also clarified that it is responsible for the ECO administrative records, and the records of the ECO Minister and Deputy Minister (which are subject to the *ATIPP Act*), as well as cabinet and committee records (which are not subject to the *ATIPP Act*).

James was satisfied with this more complete explanation and no further investigation was necessary.

The ATIPP Act requires government departments to assist the Yukon Government Records Manager in responding to each applicant openly, accurately and completely. Providing details of why a department doesn't have the requested records or where the records may be located are two examples of how departments can accomplish this.

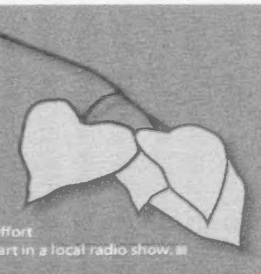
Please Note: If You Need More Time — Ask

Responses to access requests come from the Yukon Government Records Manager. All responses tell citizens that they can ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner (IPC) to review a decision to deny access to records or parts of records. The request for review has to be made in writing to the IPC within 30 days of receiving the response to the access request.

However, it's important to realize that citizens can ask the IPC to extend the 30-day time limit if they need more time to ask for a review.

The ATIPP Act sets time limits for many of its procedures but the IPC will always consider the individual's circumstances when he or she is requesting more time.

Celebrating the Right to Know



September 28, 2007, was International Right to Know Day, a day dedicated to the promotion of freedom of information worldwide. Its goals are to raise global awareness about the right of the individual to access government information and to promote access to information as a fundamental human right. Over 60 countries have access to information legislation and more countries are in the process of developing such laws.

In 2007, Canadian Information and Privacy Commissioners coordinated efforts to mark Right to Know Week to raise awareness about the right to access information. The Yukon Information and Privacy Commissioner participated in this Canada-wide effort by making presentations at a local high school and at Yukon College and by taking part in a local radio show.

IPC Urges Review of *ATIPP Act*

For the past eight years, this office has been pressing the Yukon government to undertake a badly-needed review of the *ATIPP Act* and to specifically address a list of identified problems. This is a major issue which has repeatedly and consistently been raised with the Yukon government by the previous Information and Privacy Commissioner. The need for a review and specific amendments has not changed and as the new Commissioner, I continue to urge the Yukon government to address this ongoing issue.

Chronology

2000

- In October, the need for a review and amendments to the *ATIPP Act* was first identified by this office.

2003

- IPC Annual Report stated: "No practical progress has been made on the development of a legislative amendment to clarify the definition of a 'public body' since the need was identified in 2000."

2004

- IPC Annual Report identified sixteen specific *ATIPP Act* amendments and noted: "The government's response to my October 2000 request for a legislative amendment has consistently been that this needs to be included in a full review of the *ATIPP Act*. I tend to agree. However, the review has not taken place, nor is it expected in the identifiable future."

2005

- On May 12, the Minister responsible for the *ATIPP Act* stated in the legislature that in the short term the government would focus on non-legislative options and that in the longer term, "... the government will continue to develop a plan for the future review of the *Act*."
- IPC Annual Report noted that "In May, 2005, the Minister responsible for the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* referred to the *Act* as being like Swiss cheese — full of holes. My office continues to be challenged by this fact."

2006

- IPC Annual Report reported: "It is regrettable that these positive trends and activities are offset by the challenges presented by the weakness of the *Act*. It is flawed legislation that is badly in need of review and amendment. The direction has been to seek non-legislative options for addressing the problems." The report also noted: "Again, in this report, at page 21, I repeat the pressing need to either amend the *Act* to include regulatory control over custodians of personal health information, or to bring in separate legislation that will fill the present gap in privacy protection in anticipation of Canada-wide electronic health records. I urge government to move quickly on this."

Review of *ATIPP Act* Still Required

The challenges presented by the current *ATIPP Act* have not diminished. These issues continue to affect the access and privacy rights of Yukoners on a daily basis. Two examples of identified issues are the need to clarify the definition of a 'public body' and to address the lack of privacy protection of personal health information.

In my first few months as Information and Privacy Commissioner, I continued to emphasize with government officials the pressing need to deal with the flaws in the *ATIPP Act*. I have been assured that the problems are understood and that a review of the *ATIPP Act* and consideration of the protection of health information are both on the government's agenda. I urge the Yukon government to move forward quickly on these issues.

Partnership with the Canadian Privacy Commissioner

National Representatives Visit Whitehorse

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (OPC) is responsible for the *Protection of Information and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA)* which applies in Yukon to the collection, use and disclosure of personal information by businesses and federal organizations. The Yukon's Information and Privacy Commissioner (IPC) is in regular contact with the OPC and often refers people there regarding the application of *PIPEDA* in Yukon.

In 2007, the OPC began a regional engagement initiative and, in November, it sent a delegation of senior staff to Whitehorse to increase awareness of the application of *PIPEDA* in the private sector.

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Partnership with the Canadian Privacy Commissioner
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The Yukon Information and Privacy Commissioner, along with the federal Deputy Privacy Commissioner Elizabeth Denham, Policy Advisor Ann Goldsmith and Senior Privacy Investigator Gail Gauvreau, met with the president and senior staff of Yukon College and held a "pit session" with college students and staff. They also met with Yukon government staff, the presidents and executive members of the Yukon and Whitehorse Chambers of Commerce, the president and staff of the Yukon Volunteer Bureau, and the media.

This visit was a great opportunity for productive exchanges of information. As a result, our office is better equipped to provide referrals to Yukon individuals and organizations with questions about private sector access to information or privacy issues. The Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada also recognized the need for more outreach and education in the North regarding *PIPEDA* and its application. ■

Statistics — Information and Privacy Commissioner Services

Every year, the Information and Privacy Commissioner (IPC) is contacted by many Yukoners who are seeking information, requesting reviews of a decision by a public body regarding an access request, or making a complaint.

Under the *ATIPP Act*, when an access request is denied or partly denied, an individual can ask the IPC to review that decision. This triggers a request for review under Section 48. This is a legislated quasi-judicial process with a set time frame.

On the other hand, complaints about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information are dealt with under Section 42. Under this section, research and investigation activities are carried out, and the process is less formal.

Some of the complaints or issues that come to us are outside our jurisdiction, but we still try to help. We often spend time directing citizens to the right place or making enquiries on their behalf to ensure that they are on the right track.

2007 ATIPP Files by Legislation

Section of the *Act*	Description	Opened in 2007
42(b)	General powers to receive complaints or comments from a member of the public concerning the administration of the Act, conduct investigations into those complaints, and report on those investigations.	6
42(c)	General powers to comment on the implications for access to information or for protection of privacy of existing or proposed legislative schemes or programs of public bodies.	6
42(d)	General powers to authorize the collection of personal information from sources other than the individual whom the information is about.	1
48(1)(a)	Request for a review of a refusal by a public body or the records manager to grant access to the record.	1
48(1)(b)	Request for a review of a decision by a public body or the records manager to separate or obliterate information from the record.	4
48(1)(c)	Request for a review of a decision about an extension of time under section 12 for responding to a request for access to a record.	1

Requests for Review (section 48)

Brought forward from 2006	**2**
Received in 2007	**5**
Energy, Mines and Resources	2
Environment	1
Health and Social Services	2
Total	**7**
Completed in 2007	**5**
To inquiry	–
Successfully mediated	2
Investigated	1
Discontinued	2
Carried forward to 2008	**2**

Complaints (section 42(b))

Brought forward from 2006	**1**
Received in 2007	**6**
Total	**7**
Completed in 2007	**1**
Withdrawn	1
Carried forward to 2008	**6**

Comment (Section 42(c))

Brought forward from 2006	**3**
Received in 2007	**6**
Total	**9**
Completed in 2007	**5**
Carried forward to 2008	**4**

Non-Jurisdictional Complaints

Total	**11**

Requests for Information

Total	**37**

2007–2008 Budget Summary

The budget for the operations of the Office of the Ombudsman and the Information and Privacy Commissioner is submitted annually to the Members Services Board for review before being approved by the Legislative Assembly. The budget summary below covers both functions of the office for the period from April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

The 2007–2008 budget remained relatively unchanged from previous years. However, the move to new office space resulted in an increase in operational expenses. There was also a one-time increase in personnel expenses as a result of the departure of the previous Ombudsman.

Category	Expenditures
Personnel	$ 418,400
Office and Operations	$ 90,200
Supplies and Services	$ 6,500
Capital items	$ 3,000
Total	**$ 518,100**

Out and About — Where We've Been in 2007

January
- Presentation to Records Management Class, Yukon College — Whitehorse, YT
- Information and Privacy Commissioners' Conference — Banff, AB

March
- Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada Conference for Investigators — Winnipeg, MB

May
- The Art and Practice of Policy, Public Service Commission — Whitehorse, YT
- British Columbia-Yukon Public Health Information Program Meeting — Whitehorse, YT
- Public Sector Chief Information Officer Council — Presentation to the Council's Privacy Subcommittee — Whitehorse, YT

June
- ATIPP Coordinators' Meeting — Whitehorse, YT
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Change of Command Ceremony — Whitehorse, YT
- Canadian Information and Privacy Commissioners' Annual Meeting — Fredericton, NB

September
- Private Sector Privacy in a Changing World, *Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA)* Conference — Vancouver, BC
- Presentation to Journalism Class, Yukon College — Whitehorse, YT

October
- Right to Know Week Presentation, Vanier Catholic Secondary School — Whitehorse, YT
- Right to Know Week, CBC Radio Interview — Whitehorse, YT

November
- Canada Health Infoway Privacy Forum — Toronto, ON
- Pit Session with Deputy Privacy Commissioner of Canada Elizabeth Denham, Yukon College — Whitehorse, YT
- Presentation with Deputy Privacy Commissioner of Canada, Elizabeth Denham to Yukon College Board of Directors, Faculty and Staff — Whitehorse, YT
- Who is Protecting my Privacy? CBC Radio Interview — Whitehorse, YT

December
- ATIPP Coordinators' Meeting — Whitehorse, YT

Accolades

There are many government employees who try to do their best every day and in their work recognize the importance of access and privacy issues while serving the Yukon public. We extend our thanks to some of the employees who made a difference in 2007.

Jon Breen

Disability Employment Consultant, Public Service Commission

for ensuring that there is a privacy protection statement in the Application Form for Solutions That Work. The privacy statement assures applicants that their personal information will be used only for the purpose for which it was collected.

Derek Holmes

Manager, Health, Safety and Wellness, Public Service Commission

for ensuring that the privacy of personal information was properly protected by a firm contracted to conduct a survey of Disability Management Program clients.

Carl Rumscheidt

Director, Supply Services, Highways and Public Works

for taking a keen interest in how to protect information in contractor and vendor registries. As Carl knows, there is evidence that combined data from various sources, including public sector databases, can be used to profile citizens and gain their personal information. This undermines everyone's right to privacy and has the potential to contribute to identity theft and other nefarious uses.

Judy Pelchat, Cassandra Kelly, and Judy Carson

ATIPP Office, Highways and Public Works

for always being willing to answer our questions and work cooperatively with us on issues of common interest. ■